

North of Falcon Policy

Commission Briefing – January, 2013

Policy C-3608

Expired Dec 31, 2012

John Long – Fish Program
Pat Pattillo – Director's Office

North of Falcon Policy

Guidance to the Department for annual salmon fisheries:

- Conservation Principles
- Harvest Opportunity
- In-season Management
- Monitoring, Sampling and Enforcement
- Gear Conflicts
- Incidental Mortalities
- Communications

North of Falcon Policy

Department staff will insure that management decisions are consistent with:

- Statutory Authority
- U.S. v. Washington
- U.S. v. Oregon
- Endangered Species Act
- Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Management Plan
- Pacific Salmon Treaty
- PFMC's Framework Salmon Management Plan
- State/Tribal agreements
- Fish and Wildlife Commission Policies

North of Falcon Policy

- Implement consistent with the 21st Century Salmon and Steelhead Initiative
 - Science-based, well-documented, transparent, well-communicated, and accountable
 - Meet or exceed ESA recovery and conservation goals

Harvest Management

General & Statewide

Fishing Opportunities ...

- ... will be provided when they can be directed at
healthy wild and hatchery stocks
- ... will utilize selective fishing methods and gears to the fullest extent possible to
maximize fishing opportunity
and to
minimizing impacts on depressed stocks
- ... will not be
exclusively reserved for either sport or commercial users

Harvest Management

General & Statewide

➤ Meaningful recreational fishing opportunities

will be ...

distributed equitably across fishing areas

and

reflect the diverse interests of fishers, including retention
and catch-and-release fisheries

Harvest Management

Sockeye, Chum, and Pink Salmon
(except for Puget Sound origin sockeye...)

...in priority order,

- (1) provide the majority of harvest to the commercial fisheries
- (2) provide meaningful recreational opportunities

Harvest Management

Chinook and Coho Salmon – Puget Sound

...in priority order,

- (1) provide meaningful recreational opportunities ...
distributed equitably across fishing areas ...
- (2) provide opportunities for commercial harvest

Harvest Management

Grays Harbor:

... include opportunities for both the recreational and commercial fisheries

Willapa Bay:

... consistent with Willapa Bay Framework

... meaningful opportunities for both recreational and commercial fisheries

Pacific Ocean:

... consistent with the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Framework Salmon Management Plan...

Harvest Management

Columbia River:

Columbia River harvest management regimes shall be developed in cooperation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife representatives.

Commercial and recreational fishing opportunity will be scheduled to optimize the non-treaty harvest of chinook and coho and to provide a balanced opportunity to each fleet. When developing recreational and commercial fishing options, the Department shall consider fair and reasonable catch opportunity, stability and duration of fisheries, as well as sharing of the conservation responsibility.

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In-season Management

... consistent with pre-season conservation and harvest management objectives and fishery intent developed through the North of Falcon process

Monitoring, Sampling & Enforcement

... will be provided to account for species and population impacts of all fisheries

... Fishery participants will be required to comply...

Gear and Fishery Conflicts

- ... minimize gear and other fishery conflicts
- ... resolved by involving the appropriate sport and commercial representatives in a dispute resolution process managed by Department staff

Incidental Mortalities

- ... minimize mortalities on non-target species (e.g., rockfish, sea birds, etc)
- ... include strategies to limit seabird mortalities consistent with the federal Migratory Bird Act

Communications

- ... make ongoing improvements for effective public involvement during the North of Falcon planning process
- Include North of Falcon participants as observers during appropriate state/tribal discussions of fishery issues
- Maintain timely records of discussions and decisions
- Use a variety of communication tools

Delegation of Authority

- ... the Fish and Wildlife Commission delegated the authority to the Director to
- ... make harvest agreements with Northwest treaty tribes and other governmental agencies
- ... adopt permanent and emergency regulations resulting from North of Falcon

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Proposed Adopted Feb, 2013 Terminates Dec 31, 2014

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